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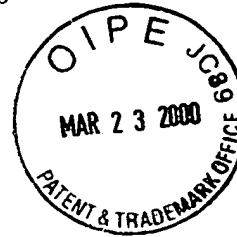
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March 23, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231



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Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application  
Appl. No. 09/321,882; filed May 28, 1999  
For: **Neuroactive Steroids of the Androstane and Pregnane Series**  
Inventors: Upasani *et al.*  
Our Ref: 1483.0130002/JMC/BEC

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Fee Transmittal (Form PTO/SB/17) (in duplicate);
2. Petition For Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1) (in duplicate);
3. Amendment And Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111;
4. First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (in duplicate);
5. Form PTO-1449 and accompanying reference;
6. Return postcard; and
7. Our check no. 27032 for \$428.00 to cover:
  - \$ 78.00 Independent claims in excess of three (37 C.F.R. § 1.16(b));
  - 240.00 Submission of an Information Disclosure Statement (37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p)); and
  - 110.00 Extension for response within first month (37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(1)).

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It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



John M. Covert  
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